

The decision by Sinclair Broadcasting to force their local stations to preempt regular programming in order to air a blatantly anti-John Kerry documentary days before the November presidential election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of whatever is in the companies' best interest, more self-serving propaganda and less of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.